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# GENEALOGY.

## DESCENDANTS

OF

GABRIEL THOMAS, — 2  
JOHN THOMAS, — 6  
VALENTINE THOMAS, — 10  
CHRISTIAN THOMAS — 13

AND

GEORGE RAMSBURG.



COMPILED BY

PROFESSOR CYRUS THOMAS

OF WASHINGTON, D. C.

1902-1905

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# GENEALOGY.



Being desirous of collecting for preservation in own immediate my family and the families of my near relatives, the data relating to our direct ancestral Thomas line, my investigations for this purpose have brought together numerous items relating to the several lines of this name in Frederick county which I presume will be of interest to quite a number of other residents. I found, during my examination of the records and other sources of information, that, in order to distinguish between the families pertaining to the different lines, it was necessary to trace back each line.

As the data obtained by this investigation,—though relating only to the genealogy of the different lines,—may, by being made known, enable those interested in special portions to trace back, by additional facts in their reach, which have not come to my knowledge, the genealogy of their particular families, I have arranged the items according to the different lines,—so far as this can be determined from the data collected,—for publication in THE FREDERICK NEWS. I have had but two objects in view in concluding to furnish these items for publication,—First, to convey information which I believe will be of interest to many persons of our county; and Second, to call attention to numerous breaks in the lines which I have been unable, from the data obtained, to fill out; and to solicit information that may aid me in closing up these gaps and also to correct the errors in the lists presented. Information as to the proper relation of a single name will generally enable me to bring together links which would otherwise remain detached, as such name carries with it the family with which it is connected. One great difficulty encountered in at-

tempting to trace out the genealogy of any one of the Thomas lines of this county, as most of the older living residents are aware, is not so much the large number of persons of the name, as the large number of repetitions of the same names in different families. In all such cases other means of identification than the name are necessary. Another difficulty arises from the different methods of spelling the same name in old records, chiefly on account of the difference between the German and English pronunciation. Thus the same individual is called Margaret in her father's will, Anna Margaret in the baptismal record, and Anna Margaretha on her gravestone. The name George Peter in one place is simply George in another, while Philip Henry is usually given as Henry.

I may state further that it is not the intention to include in the following lists the younger members of the present generation as this can readily be done by the families interested; nor to present any notes regarding the personal history or traits of any individual named, but to limit them to genealogical statements. It is probable that numerous slight errors will be found in regard to the dates of death as these have been obtained in most cases from the records of wills and administrations. These are liable to vary from one to two years, but it has been thought best to give them even though liable to this error as they are very important in tracing genealogy. The date of marriage given is generally the date of the issuance of the license.

## The Different Ancestral Lines.

As, is generally understood, there are several, or, at least, three or four differ-



east Thomas lines represented in Frederick County. One of these is that, which for reasons hereafter given, I have decided to designate "The Line of the Three Brothers"; another is that usually known as "The Christian Thomas Line;" another sometimes called "The Otho Thomas Line," in addition to which some two or three other lines, which will be alluded to, appear to be represented in the county. However this paper will be confined chiefly to a notice of the first two as they appear to be those most numerously represented in the county, and are those to which my investigations have been chiefly confined.

Much additional information might have been gained by personal visits to families, but this my other duties would not permit. It has been a work of love to me from which I have derived pleasure. My only regret is, that it is not more complete, however, I present it with the hope that many others may find something in it to interest them, as this will be full compensation for the labor I have bestowed on it.

#### The Line of the Three Brothers.

This triple line begins, so far as I have, as yet, been able to trace it, with Gabriel, John and Valentine Thomas, supposed brothers. Although absolute proof that they were brothers has not been found, yet the evidence given below seems to be so strong as to leave little or no doubt on this point.

The following evidence is obtained from the official records of the county: On the 22nd day of August, 1754, Josiah Beall, as the representative of Verlanda Beall, executrix of the will of John Beall, late of Prince George county, sold and conveyed to Gabriel Thomas of Frederick county, 326 acres of land, being a part of the tract known as "Poplar Thicket." A short time thereafter, to wit, on the 19th day of January, 1756, said Gabriel sold and conveyed to Valentine Thomas one-third of this land (109 acres); and on the same day another third (or 108 acres) to John Thomas, and retained the remaining third (or 109 acres) for himself. The sums paid by Valentine and John appear to have been nominal, each paying 38 pounds and 18 pence, about 190 dollars (at 5 dollars to the pound) or less than two dollars per acre. Each one of the three, as appears from their wills, resided on his own part until his death. Gabriel died in 1794, Valentine in 1795,

and John in 1800 or 1801. Another indication of relationship is the similarity of the names applied to their children and grand-children. Among the children of Gabriel we find a Gabriel, Catherine, Barbara, Henry, John and Margaret; among those of John, a Gabriel, Catherine, Barbara, Henry and John; and among those of Valentine, a Gabriel, Catherine, Barbara, and Margaret. There seems also to have been a tendency to marry into the same families. John and Gabriel, sons of Gabriel, and Henry, son of John, all married daughters of the same George Ramsberg. Members of each family were buried in the same family grave-yard on John's place. All were members of the Reformed Church of Frederick, at least their children were baptized in that church. Finally, it is a tradition handed down, at least, two of the lines, that three brothers were the ancestors of this Thomas group, though a few say seven brothers. Mrs. Susan Font, the youngest and latest surviving grand-child of John, informed me a short time before her death that it was her understanding that there were three brothers who, as she thought, came over from Germany, but unfortunately I omitted to inquire the names. The supposition that they came over from Germany is probably based on the fact that the ancestral home of the line was Germany or Switzerland. Mrs. O. Susan Markell who gave considerable attention to the subject insisted that the ancestral home was Switzerland; and the fact that most of them in Frederick county attached themselves to the Reformed church seems to favor this idea. However, it is probable that these three were descendants of earlier pioneers.

As these facts appear to be sufficient to justify the conclusion that these three—Gabriel, Valentine and John were brothers, I will proceed upon this assumption, beginning with Gabriel who was probably the eldest of the three.

#### Gabriel Thomas (1)

To avoid confusion I will designate him Gabriel Thomas (1). The date of his birth has not been ascertained as it preceded our earliest records. As his daughter Catherine, who does not appear to have been his first child, was born in 1748 it is presumed that he was born not later than 1727. In regard to his wife we only know from acknowledgments to deeds, that her given or



baptismal name was Margaret, and that she must have died before the date of her husband's will (1788) as she is not mentioned therein. Their marriage must have taken place not later than 1746 or 1747 and probably two or three years earlier. He died about the close of the year 1793 or beginning of 1794, as his will was filed for record February 5, 1794. He retained and resided on his part of "Poplar Thicket" until his death. The following are the names of his children mentioned in the will, with the dates of birth so far as they have been recorded in the baptismal record. (This term always refers to the Baptismal Record of the Reformed Church of Frederick unless otherwise expressly stated.)

- I Catherine—Born July 22, 1748.
- II Barbara—Born May 7, 1749,
- \* III Jacob—
- IV Gabriel—Born March 18, 1753.
- V Elizabeth—Born March 23, 1755.
- VI John—Born September 25, 1757.
- VII George—Born September 22, 1759.
- VIII Henry—
- IX Adam—
- X Margaret—Born June 5, 1763.
- XI Peter—

The dates of birth of Jacob, Henry, Adam, and Peter are not found on record; the order therefore in which the names are given must not be accepted as conclusive, except of those where the date of birth is given.

Here and throughout where Roman numerals are prefixed to names it will indicate that they belong to the second generation, that is, are children of the primal or earliest known ancestor of the given line. Arabic numerals will indicate the next, or third generation.

Before referring to the descendants of these children of Gabriel (1) it is necessary to call attention to one passage of his will as on it must be based our conclusion as to the probable date of death of, at least, one of these children. He bequeathed to his son John all his real estate, being part of Poplar Thicket containing 109 acres; part of Long Hope containing 43 acres; and 25 acres purchased of John Hoff. John was to pay to the other heirs 550 pounds current money. It appears from the record of administration of John's estate (he died 1797) that the only heirs who received payment were Catherine, Barbara, Margaret, Adam, Henry, and Gabriel, and that these heirs received the full amount John was to pay. As this leaves out

Jacob, Elizabeth, and George, they must have died without issue subsequent to the date of their father's will (1788), or their omission must be accounted for in some other way. Jacob, as will appear farther on, was still living but he had been compensated by his father before his death as appears from a deed on record for other land. As nothing further is found in regard to Elizabeth and George it is presumed they had died without issue in the interval between the making of their father's will and John's death.

I. CATHERINE THOMAS (of Gab. 1) Married Martin Billmyer, date not given, but it must have been before her father's death. It is probable they moved to Loudoun County, Virginia, where, as I am informed, there are families of Billmyers, at least I can learn of none residents of Frederick County.

II. BARBARA THOMAS (of Gab. 1) Married Francis Hoffman, date unknown. Her husband died in 1819; she survived him but the date of her death has not been ascertained. The children mentioned are as follows:

- 1 George
- 2 Barbara
- 3 John
- 4 Peter

And a daughter, name not given, who it seems married a Runner, as a grandson named John Runner is mentioned in the will.

1 George—I find nothing more in regard to him.

2 Barbara—Married Henry Cram, April 10, 1802.

3 John—Seems to have remained single or died (in 1841) a widower without children, as his will makes no mention of wife or child.

4 Peter—Nothing further has been ascertained in reference to him than the fact that he was living in 1841.

2 BARBARA HOFFMAN [of Francis] married Henry Cram April 10, 1802. He died in 1846, his wife having died previously. Their children were as follows:

Mary Ann.

Elizabeth—Married Absolem Stoner? November 26, 1853.

Margaret A—Married Hezekiah Boteler? December 9, 1850.

Louisa—Married William B. Tabler, March 29, 1834.

Catherine—Married Lloyd Gittings, March 29, 1834.

Rebecca—Married Francis A. Hoffman, June 6, 1840.



George W — Married Susan R. Ramsberg. February 15, 1851.

John.

Interrogation points are placed after two names given with some doubt, as I have obtained no personal information.

III JACOB THOMAS (of Gab. 1) died in 1824. His wife's first name was Susanna but her last name before marriage, and date of her death have not been ascertained, though it is evident from the will that she survived him. The following children are named in the will.

1 Mary—Born Aug. 2, 1779. Her name as given in the baptismal record is Magdalena.

2 George—Born March 12, 1782.

3 Barbara—Born December 22, 1786.

4 Charlotte. 5 Margaret. 6 Jacob.

The date of birth of the last three not known.

In addition to these the baptismal record mentions two others as follows:

Henry—Born January 2, 1775.

Elizabeth—Born January 23, 1780.

Nothing further has been learned in regard to any of these children except Barbara and Charlotte.

3 BARBARY THOMAS (of Jacob) remained single and died in 1869.

4 CHARLOTTE THOMAS (of Jacob) married John Stockman August 16, 1800. Her husband died in 1842, she survived him but the date of her death has not been obtained. The following are their children so far as named in the father's will:

Henry—Married Catherine Shafer, July 22, 1828.

John—Remained single.

Daniel—Remained single.

William—Remained single.

Mary Ann—Died young.

Catherine Ellen—Married Abraham argett, September 26, 1848

Hamanda—Married Ezra Thomas, December 9, 1844.

As Ezra Thomas was the son of Michael Thomas, a descendant of John Thomas (1), and Charlotte, his wife's mother, a descendant of Gabriel (1) through his (Gabriel's) son Jacob, their marriage formed one connecting link between the lines of Gabriel (1) and John (1).

IV GABRIEL THOMAS (of Gab. 1) whom, for distinction, I will hereafter designate "Gabriel (2)", appears from what evidence I have obtained, to have married Mary Ramsberg the daughter

of George Ramsberg (1), March 11, 1779. The evidence on this point is not absolutely positive, though sufficient, as I believe, to accept it as correct; that her name was Mary is a matter of record, and that a Gabriel Thomas married a Mary Ramsberg at the date mentioned, is also on record. He died in 1809 or the early part 1810; his wife, who survived, died in 1824. Their children, who are mentioned in their father's will and also in the report of the administrator of their mother's estate, are precisely the same, showing that none had died in the intervening fourteen years. The dates of birth of the first five and of the last one are not found on record. They are as follows:

1 John 2 Henry

3 George

4 Charlotte 5 Gabriel

6 Margaret—Born Nov. 16, 1791.

7 Peter—Born Oct. 17, 1793.

8 Mary—Born June 8, 1796.

9 Elias—date of birth not recorded.

1 JOHN THOMAS (of Gab. 2) appears to have remained single, or died a widower without issue. His death occurred in 1842 or 1843. As he died intestate his property passed to his legal representatives who were his brothers and sisters or their children where deceased. As neither Elias nor his descendants are named among the distributees it is presumed he had died previous to this date.

2 HENRY THOMAS (of Gab. 2) died in 1837 or 1838. He married twice; first, to Susanna Shafer, Oct. 24, 1800, who, as we learn from her grave-stone was born June 17, 1783 and died July 11, 1817. To them were born two children:

Catherine—born March 21, 1812. She remained single.

Mary Ann—born August 29, 1814. Married to Eli N. Shafer.

His second wife was Catherine Gear the daughter of George Gear and granddaughter of John Thomas (1), to whom he was married March 27, 1818. The date of her death is not known, though it seems from the will that she survived him. The children of this marriage were the following:

Eveline M.—married to Adam Kohlenburg, Nov. 24, 1841.

Joseph—married to Frances E. R. Copelin, Nov. 6, 1837.

Susan—Married to Walter H. Shade, May 1, 1841.

Elizabeth—Married to George W.





Padgett, April 3, 1841.

Robert H.—Remained single, and died in 1849.

Stephen A.—Married to Mary A. Bezzant, June 5, 1848.

Alcinda O.—Married to George H. Knouff, Nov. 9, 1847.

Martha J.—Married to Josiah Gear, February 9, 1858.

3 GEORGE THOMAS (of Gab. 2) remained unmarried and died in 1868.

4 CHARLOTTE THOMAS (of Gab. 2) was married to George Thomas (of Gab. of Val. 1) August 8, 1807. As their descendants will be mentioned under the Valentine line, they are omitted here.

5 GABRIEL THOMAS (of Gab. 2) married Mary Magdalena Harget, February 6, 1823. It appears from the baptismal record that one of the children of this Gabriel and his wife, Mary Magdalena, was Abraham, born February 7, 1824.

6 MARGARET THOMAS (of Gab. 2) married Philip Hawman. She died before the death of her husband which occurred in 1880. They left no children.

7 PETER THOMAS (of Gab. 2) married Harriet Cromwell, January 21, 1828, and died in 1872 or 1873, his wife having died previously. They left no children.

8 MARY ANN THOMAS (of Gab. 2) as she is named in the will, or Ann Mary as named in the marriage record, was married to David Spect, Nov. 2, 1825. He died in 1874 or 1875. His wife survived him but the date of her death has not been found. They left no children.

9 ELIAS THOMAS (of Gab. 2) died young and unmarried.

V ELIZABETH THOMAS (of Gab. 1) probably died unmarried as indicated above but this is only based on the reasons given there. There was an Elizabeth Thomas who married Christian Runner or Renner, Feb. 23, 1780, but I have found no evidence that they are the same person.

VI JOHN THOMAS (of Gab. 1) married Elizabeth Ramsberg, daughter of George Ramaberg, (1) April 16, 1786. He died in 1797 leaving his widow with "five small children." His widow lived to raise all these children to maturity and died in 1835. The names of these

children, which are not given in John's will but are found in the report of the administrator of his widow's estate and in the baptismal record, are as follows:

Anna Margaret—Born April 5, 1787, died in infancy.

1 Elizabeth—Date of birth not recorded.

2 Charlotte—Date of birth not recorded.

3 Peter—Born February 23, 1792.

Christena—Born July 13, 1793, died in infancy.

4 Barbara—Born February 23, 1795.

5 Eve—Born October 28, 1796.

1 ELIZABETH THOMAS (of John of Gab. 1) remained single, and died in 1850 or 1851. From the report on her estate we learn that her sisters Charlotte, Barbara, and Eve were still living at that date.

2 CHARLOTTE THOMAS (of John of Gab. 1) married Henry Zimmerman June 8, 1816. It is probable he died in 1874; his will is dated January 8, 1861, but was not filed for record until May 28, 1875. His wife appears to have survived him though both must have been over eighty years of age at that time; it is presumed her death occurred shortly thereafter.

The names of their children as given in their father's will are as follows:

Elizabeth S.—Married Edward D. Zimmerman, May 17, 1848.

Peter J.—Married Ann Maria Cronise, May 19, 1847.

Gideon M.—Married Christiana Wolf, March 24, 1846.

Daniel—married Charlotte Snyder March 17, 1845.

William H.—married Mary E. Cronise, April 8, 1840.

Josiah B.—married Ellen B. Holtz, April 18, 1851?

Ephraim J.—married Maria E. Thomas, May 17, 1854.

3 PETER THOMAS [of John of Gab. 1] married Susanna Whip, Oct. 18, 1823. He died in 1846; his wife survived him but the date of her death has not been obtained. The names of their children are as follows:

Jonathan A.—married to Elizabeth A. Long, April 28, 1854.

Josiah S.—married to Susan Rebecca Thomas, February 10, 1848.

Lewis E.—married to Sophia Dixon, May 27, 1851.



Susan R.—married to Eli O. Waskey, April 8, 1854.

Maria E.—married to Ephraim J. Zimmerman, May 17, 1854.

Eleanor S.—married to Lewis H. Main, May 7, 1856.

Eliza M.—married to Benjamin Dixon.

Daniel P.—married to Elizabeth R. Ramsberg, December 8, 1857.

4 BARBARY THOMAS [of John of Gab. 1] married Michael Ouller September 27, 1819. They moved soon thereafter to Ohio. Their children so far as known are three daughters and two sons. No information in regard to the date of death of these parties, has been received.

5 EVE THOMAS (of John of Gab. 1) married Michael Thomas (of Hy.) April 19, 1817. As this Michael was a descendant of John Thomas (1) his descendants will be noticed under that line.

From what has been stated of John Thomas (of Gab. 1) and what will be mentioned hereafter in regard to Henry Thomas (of John 1), it will be seen that they married sisters thus forming a link between the two lines. As Eve Thomas was a daughter of John Thomas (of Gab. 1), and Michael Thomas a son of Henry Thomas (of John 1) their marriage formed another link. If I am right in my supposition that Gabriel Thomas (2) son of Gabriel (1) married Mary Ramsberg, a sister of Margaret, wife of Henry (of John), this will form a third link between the two lines.

VII GEORGE THOMAS [of Gab. 1]. For reasons already given I believe it safe to assume that this George died young, or at least before 1797 and without issue.

VIII HENRY THOMAS (of Gab. 1). I have been unable to learn anything further in regard to him than what has been stated.

IX ADAM THOMAS [of Gab. 1]. Although it is certain that he was alive at the time of his brother John's death, and some of our oldest residents have more than once spoken of an Adam Thomas, I have failed to learn any further particulars. Nor has anything further been ascertained in regard to Margaret numbered above as the tenth

child of Gabriel [1].

XI PETER THOMAS [of Gab. 1] married Barbara Shafer, May 6, 1799. He died in 1808. His wife and three young children survived him, to-wit:

1 Christiana—Married George Bam-  
baugh, Oct. 3, 1829.

2 Margaret—Married to John Whip,  
March 1, 1824.

He died in 1865 or 1866; his wife survived him. Their children were—Samuel T.,—Daniel P.

3 Ann Mary—Married to George Thomas [of Hy.] May 31, 1830. Afterwards his widow married John Hargett.

One of the daughters of this latter marriage—Julia Ann Hargett—was married to George Thomas [of Hy.] April 21, 1836. They will be noticed under the line of John Thomas [1]

With this we end the list of the line of Gabriel [1], according to the plan adopted.

#### John Thomas (1).

As this John Thomas was the great-grandfather of the present writer, and the chief object of his examination was to trace the genealogy of this particular line for the use of his own family and immediate relatives, a few more particulars than are given in the other lines will be permitted.

I have taken for granted, as heretofore stated, that the evidence presented is sufficient to justify the assumption that Gabriel [1], John [1], and Valentine [1] were brothers. I have since the first communication learned from one of the oldest living representatives of the Valentine Thomas line that she had learned from George Thomas [of Hy.], who was well posted on the family genealogy, that they were related, which could only be true on the supposition that John and Valentine were related one to the other.

There was a John Thomas who died in 1749 who names the following children in his will; Elizabeth, John, Samuel, and Richard. So far as dates are concerned it is possible that this John might have been identical with John [1]; but this supposition seems to be forbidden by the introduction of the names Samuel and Richard which are not found in the line of John [1]. Moreover an examination of the will, which is still preserved in files of the Orphans' Court, show that the name is written in a clear English hand.

The supposition that Gabriel, John,



and Valentine were brothers seems to be the only satisfactory explanation, and, moreover, agrees with the tradition handed down the three lines.

The more carefully I study the data relating to the Thomas lines in Frederick County, the more am I inclined to believe that Scharf is correct in his supposition given in his "Western Maryland," that representatives of the English lines [for there were more than one] appeared first in the section now embraced in the county, those of the German lines following a few years later. It seems probable, from all indications I have found, that the latter did not commence to settle in this region until a short time previous to 1750. This subject will be referred to again when we reach the English line; it is mentioned here to say that perhaps, after all, the tradition that the three brothers were not born here but came from some other section is correct.

The dates of birth and marriage of John [1], as we have found true in regard to the other two brothers, are not recorded. Judging from the date of birth of his oldest child, as given below, I presume he was married in 1753 or 1754, and that he was born not later than 1730 or 1731. The first name of his wife was Catherine, but her full name before marriage has not been ascertained. His will is dated March 8, 1800, and was filed for record February 24, 1801, hence his death must have occurred between these dates. His wife survived him, but the date of her death is unknown.

By his will he bequeathed to his son, Henry, the following lands: a part of Poplar Thicket, containing 90 acres; parts of Johnson's Folly and Johnson's Neglect, containing together 50 acres, and part of Victory, 12 acres. In return said Henry was to pay to his sister, Catherine, 100 pounds current money; to Barbara 200 pounds; to John Thomas, a grandson of the testator, 200 pounds, (when he should come of age); to Catherine Gear, a grand-daughter of the testator, 50 pounds; and to Catherine Thomas, testator's wife, 50 pounds. The will makes no mention of the father or mother of the testator's grand-children John Thomas and Catherine Gear, though the father and mother of the latter were living, but it seems evident that the father of the former had died previous to the date of the will.

In explanation of the difference in the allowances to the heirs it may be said that the testator had already (Oct. 19, 1786) deeded to George Gear husband of his daughter, Mary, for "good will and five shillings" 50 acres of land being part of the Resurvey of Johnson's Folly; and on the same day to Christopher Widegan, husband of his daughter, Catherine, for the same consideration, 20 acres, being part of Poplar Thicket. His son Henry and son-in-law Widegan were appointed executors, the latter however declined to act. Henry, having some doubts as to the sufficiency of his title to the lands, under the will, as soon as John, the grandson, came of age, paid all the heirs their full, legal proportions and obtained deeds from them (June 20, 1812). From the names of the parties signing these deeds we learn that his mother had died before this date, but that all the children who were alive at the date of their father's will were still living.

The names of the children as learned from the will, the deeds and the baptismal record of the Reformed church of Frederick were as follows:

I Mary [or Anna Maria], born March 7, 1755.

II Catherine, born March 12, 1757.

John, born April 29, 1759.

III Barbara, date of birth not recorded.

Gabriel, born April 30, 1762.

IV Henry, born October 18, 1765.

I MARY THOMAS [of John] was married to George Gear, May 1, 1784. She was living in 1812 but died before the death of her husband which occurred in 1838. Their children were as follows:

1 Catherine,

3 George,

2 Peter,

4 Margaret.

I CATHERINE GEAR [of Geo.] who is the one mentioned in her grandfather's will, married Henry Thomas [of Gab. 2] March 27, 1818. She was his second wife; his first wife was Susanna Shafer to whom he was married October 24, 1809. He died in 1837; Catherine survived him but the date of her death is not known. Although a list of their descendants has already been given under the line of Gabriel [1], those of Catherine will be added here so as to make the line of John [1] as complete as possible. They were as follows:

Eveline M.—Married to Adam Kohlenburg, Nov. 24, 1841.

Joseph—Married to Frances E. R.



Copelin, November 6, 1837.

Susan—Married to Walter H. Shade, May 1, 1841.

Elizabeth—Married to George W. Padget, April 3, 1841.

Robert H.—Remained single and died in 1849.

Stephen A.—Married to Mary A. Bazant, June 5, 1848.

Alcinda C.—Married to George H. Knouff, Nov. 9, 1847.

Martha J.—Married to Josiah Gear, February 9, 1858,

2 GEORGE GEAR [of Geo.] A George Gear married Catherine Winepigler, February 9, 1813, probably this George, but nothing further regarding him has been ascertained.

3 MARGARET GEAR [of John] married John Butcher, June 13 1833. Nothing additional known. Nor has anything in regard to Peter been ascertained.

II CATHERINE THOMAS [of John] married Christopher Widegan, January 32, 1783. She died before the death of her husband but after 1812 as her name appears in the deed to Henry [June 20, 1812]. His death occurred in 1810 or 1841. They had no children. He is still mentioned by the older persons who remember to have seen him as "Father" or "Daddy" Widegan. His name is variously spelled on the records as Widegan, Whitagen, Widi-gan, Wettekin, Vadegan, and Whida-gen.

III. BARBARA THOMAS [of John] married Christian Hilke, August 13, 1791. Soon after marriage they moved to Hardy county, Virginia, [now West Virginia]. Nothing has been learned in regard to their descendants or dates of death, however it is known that they were living November 4, 1812. As our list is limited chiefly to Frederick county no effort has been made to ascertain these particulars.

IV. HENRY THOMAS [of John] married Ann Margaret Ramsberg, daughter of George Ramsberg [1], November 22, 1790; and died January 17, 1828. His wife was born February 16, 1767, and died September 3, 1811. Her name is given on the marriage record as Margaret, in her father's will as Ann Margaret, on the baptismal record Anna Margaret, and on her grave-stone Anna Margaretha. Their children were as follows:

1 Mary—Born October 25, 1791.

2 Michael—Born July 2, 1793.

3 Stephen—Born January 5, 1796.

4 George, born May 23, 1798.

5 Susan born March 11, 1808.

I MARY THOMAS [of Hy.] was married to Melton Lamb June 9, 1824. Soon after marriage they moved to the vicinity of Covington, Kentucky. The dates of death are unknown and all that is known in regard to their children is that one was named Melton; one Edward, and another Lewis. As they have never resided in Frederick County no effort to obtain particulars has been made.

2 MICHAEL THOMAS [of Hy.] married Eve Thomas daughter of John Thomas [of Gab I]. April 19, 1817, and died 1858. His wife, who survived him died 1865. Their children were as follows:

Daniel H.—Married to Susan R. Feaster, November 23, 1841.

Margaret—remained single.

Ezra M.—Married to Amanda Stookman, December 9, 1844.

George—Married Cordelia Boyer, October 20, 1857.

Susan Rebecca—Married Josiah S. Thomas, February 10, 1848.

Mary Ann—Married Samuel Whip, March 16, 1847.

Ellen J. V.—Married Jacob Dorcas, March 28, 1857.

Ezra Ann—Married Luther Shafer.

3 STEPHEN THOMAS [of Hy.] married Mariah Rogan daughter of Daniel Rogan in 1824. He resided in East Tennessee the home of his wife, until 1858, when he moved to Texas. He died in 1864, and his wife who survived him died in 1871. [As no records are at present accessible being in a distant State the exact dates cannot be given]. Their children were as follows:

Oyrus—Married to Dorothy Adeline Logan [first wife], June 13, 1850.

Married to Viola L. Davis [second wife], April 20, 1865.

The names of the other children, none of whom ever resided in Frederick county, are as follows:

Margaret, Susan, Oliver H. P., James, Lavinia, Cornelia, Mary, Ellen, Sarah, Walter.

4 GEORGE THOMAS [of Hy.] married Rebecca Rogan daughter of Daniel Rogan, March 15, 1827. His children by





this, his first wife, who died January 22, 1829, were

Henry—moved to Illinois and married there.

Catherine Susan—married Frederick Markell, November 25, 1851.

Said George married his second wife, Ann Mary Thomas daughter of Peter Thomas [of Gab. 1,] May 30, 1830.

The children of this wife were the following:

Joseph—Remained single.

Ann Rebecca—Married to Morris Rhoderick, January 23, 1862.

Said George married his third wife, Julia Ann Hargett, daughter of John Hargett, April 2, 1836. She died April 13, 1879. The children by this wife were as follows:

Charles A.—Married to Maranda O. Geisbert, May 21, 1862.

Zachariah G.—Married to Louisa Grove, November 4, 1864.

John Franklin—Married first, to Mary E. Zimmerman, October 24, 1865; second, Emily V. Zimmerman, October 13, 1891.

Cephas M.—Married to Sue E. Roop, February 11, 1874.

Samuel Cornelius—Married to Clara Buckey, January 14, 1885.

Curtis W.—Married to Abbie L. Thomas, November 20, 1877.

Stephen A.—Married to Ella V. Thomas, March 13, 1885.

George, the father, died March 23, 1888.

5 SUSANNA THOMAS [of H\*] married Peter S. Fout, May 2, 1827. He died June 10, 1862; his wife, who survived him, died Nov. 26, 1892.

The following are the names of their children:

George, H—Married to Lucretia Shook May 25, 1853

Margaret—Married to Norman Claibagh, May 30, 1848.

Bradley T.—Married to Mary Dyer.

Mary—Who remained single.

Susan O.—Married to William P. Rice, December 13, 1864.

Charles B.—Married, 1st. Ida Tabler, Nov. 25, 1868; 2nd. Anna Whalen.

Julia—Married to William P. Grove, May 5, 1868.

Cyrus—Married to Mattie Ram-berg.

Before leaving the line of John Thomas [1], it is necessary to refer to his two children not numbered in the preceding list, to wit: John, born April

29, 1759, and Gabriel, born April 20, 1762; and also to his grandson John mentioned in his will. As neither of these two sons is mentioned in the will of John [1], nor in the deed which Henry obtained from the heirs, nor in the report of Henry as executor of his father's will, it is reasonably certain that they had died before the date of the will. However, as the will and Henry also, recognized the right of John, the grandson to a child's full share of the estate, it is certain that he was the child, and the only living child of one of the two sons—John and Gabriel. It follows also that one of these sons had died without issue, probably in infancy, and that the other had married and died before the making of the will. It is possible, however, that his wife was still living at the date of the will, as it mentions only those for whom there were special bequests.

I am inclined to the belief that Gabriel died young and that John was the father of John the grandson, and my reasons are as follows: I find no Gabriel mentioned who fits the conditions, I find a John named who does. The baptismal record mentions a John and Catharine Thomas who had a child named John Peter born March 2, 1791 and another named Joseph born June 8, 1795. The official marriage record mentions a John Thomas married to Catharine Thomas, March 16, 1787, whom I have been unable to connect otherwise with any of the Thomas lines. As the will of John [1] states that the grandson John was under age at the time it was made, it follows that Henry would wait until he was of age before having him sign the deed. This, as already mentioned, was done in 1812 the very year he came of age if born in 1791. This supposition assumes that Joseph died in infancy.

As Henry Thomas [of John [1]] married a daughter of George Ramsburg [1] and John Thomas [of Gab. 1] married another daughter of the same George Ramsburg, the descendants of the two would be related. Another connection of the two lines was formed by the marriage of Michael Thomas [of Henry] to Eve Thomas [of John of Gab. 1] Another by the marriage of Henry [of Gab. 2] to Catharine Gear; and another by the marriage of Gabriel Thomas [2] to Mary another daughter of the same George Ramsburg [1].



### Valentine Thomas.

As it seems likely that Valentine (1) was the third in age of the three supposed brothers, I will give next what has been ascertained in regard to his descendants. However the information in this instance is rather meager, being confined chiefly to the descendants of two out of seven of his children.

As his will is dated October 17, 1794 and was filed for record Sept. 15, 1795, he must have died between these dates, and most likely in 1795. As the date of birth of the first child mentioned in the baptismal record is Sept. 24, 1752, it is probable he was married in 1750 or 1751 and that he was born not later than 1728. Although his will makes no mention of his wife, from which fact it is presumed she had died previous to the date thereof, it is learned from acknowledgements to deeds that her first name was Margaret, but her full name before marriage has not been ascertained. He bequeathed to his son Valentine his part of "Poplar Thicket" and "Grubby Hollow," he, the said Valentine Jr., to pay to five of the other heirs 100 pounds each, of current money. Leonard, the other heir had received as his share other real estate.

There is considerable difference between the names of his children as given in the baptismal record and the will. They are as follows:

I Gabriel—Born September 24, 1752.

II Valentine—Born April 8, 1757.

Philip Henry—Born March 7, 1761—probably died young.

III Susanna Margaret—Date of birth not recorded.

Anna Maria—Born February 17, 1765—probably died young.

IV Barbara—Date of birth not recorded.

V Catherine—Date of birth not recorded.

John Valentine—Born October 31, 1772—probably died in infancy.

VI Maria Magdalena—Born February 28, 1774.

VII Leonard—Date of birth not recorded.

Those not numbered are from the baptismal record only and as neither they nor their descendants are mentioned in the will we may assume they had died before the date thereof without issue.

I GABRIEL THOMAS [of Val. 1] died in the latter part of 1794 or early

part of 1795, but certainly after October 17, 1794, the date of his father's will. Neither the date of his marriage nor the full name of his wife are given, it is probable however that he was married in 1776 or 1777. The will mentions her as Margaret. She survived her husband and died in 1836 or 1837 fully 80 years old. Only three children are mentioned, as follows:

1 George—Called George Jacob in the baptismal record was born October 4, 1778.

2 Margaret—Date of birth not recorded.

3 Barbara, as given in the will, but Elizabeth Barbara in the baptismal record—was born October 28, 1786.

1 GEORGETHOMAS [of Gab. of Val. 1] married Charlotte Thomas [of Gab. of Gab. 1] August 3, 1807, and died in 1851 or 1852. His wife survived him, and died March 4, 1869. Their children were as follows:

Ed—Married to Christiana Schuh, May 27, 1834.

Christian—Married to Mary E. Kemp May 4, 1838.

Sophia—Married to Israel Michael, January 22, 1839.

William H.—Married to Mary A. R. Harding, May 27, 1844.

Samuel—Married to Maria Hargett.

David—Married to Elizabeth Hildebrand, July 19, 1843.

John—Married to Ann E. Myers, April 6, 1852.

Mary—Remained single.

Charlotte—Married to John W. Cook, September 3, 1856.

George P.—Married to Maria Kemp.

Ann Margaret—Married to George W. Myers, April 12, 1858.

William H. Thomas [of Geo.], died in 1864. His wife, who survived him, died in 1858. The children were Charles Franklin and Franklin Charles [twin brothers] and Annie M. H.—Annie died single in 1867.

II Valentine Thomas [of Val. 1?], married Elizabeth Keller, March 15, 1799. As I have been wholly unable to obtain any verbal information in regard to him or his family, I give here what is found on the baptismal record of the Reformed church of Frederick, being the only item save that relating to marriage which appears of record. From this it appears that the follow-



ing were children of Valentine and Elizabeth Thomas:

- 1 George—Born June 15, 1800.
- 2 Margaret—Born January 3, 1802.
- 3 Mary Ann—Born March 22, 1807.
- 4 Sophia—Born April 11, 1810.

I give this Valentine [2] without positive evidence that he was the son of Valentine [1], but the only other Valentine of whom I am aware belonging anywhere near the same date, is the son of Christian [2], who was never married.

Nothing positive has been ascertained in reference to his children. Possibly the following may belong to this family:

There was a George Thomas, unaccounted for otherwise, who married Mary Cromer, November 18, 1833. He died in 1855. He mentions in his will his wife, Mary, and her daughter, Rebecca, [probably by her first husband Cromer] married to William Kemp. He mentions no children by his marriage.

There was a Margaret Thomas, also otherwise unaccounted for, who was married to John Whip, March 1, 1824, possibly a daughter of Valentine 2.

There was a Sophia Thomas married to Israel Michael, January 22, 1839; possibly a daughter of this Valentine.

These marriages are mentioned as possibly being in this family, but I have been unable to obtain evidence confirming the suggestion.

I have failed to find any particulars of the next four children of Valentine [1]—to wit: Susanna Margaret, Barbara, Catherine, and Magdaleen.

**VIII LEONARD THOMAS** [of Val. 1] married Barbara Yose, March 18, 1785. He died in 1831 or 1832, his wife, who survived him, died in 1857, at which time she must have been over 90 years old. The children mentioned in their father's will are as follows:

- 1 Julia Ann, 2 Catherine, 3 Barbara,
- 4 Mary 5 Elizabeth, 6 Margaret,
- 7 Leonard.

1 Julia Ann—Married George Martin, September 5, 1812. They moved from the country soon after marriage.

2 Catherine—Remained single and died in 1843.

3 Barbara married Lewis Ramsberg, Dec. 2, 1816. If this Lewis be the same as Lewis J. Ramsberg, as seems probable, he died in 1865 and his children were Jane B.—Mary,—Charlotte,—Lewis J. and Francis G.

4 Mary [of Leonard] married Nerl Blessing, Sept. 29, 1825. Their children were as follows:

William—Married to Mary Ann Thomas [of Gab. 3], March 21, 1864.

Francis—Married first to Jane Rice, married second to Henrietta Catzen-dafner, January 26, 1856.

George—Married ——— Wagley.

Mary Jane—Married Zachariah Hargett.

Penelopa—Married Tobias Carter.

Elizabeth Ellen—Married Zachariah Hargett.

Ann—Married Randolph Zimmerman.

5 Elizabeth [of Leonard] remained single.

6 Margaret [of Leonard]—Married Christian Waskey, May 11, 1820. Their children were as follows:

Perry—married to Sarah Crampton, May 17, 1850.

Eli O.—Married to Susan R. Thomas [of Peter] April 8, 1854.

Leonard—Married to Louisa O. Blessing, Sept. 28, 1858.

7 Leonard Thomas [of Leonard]—Married Catherine Tabler, June 1, 1824.

#### Remarks on the German Lines.

Before presenting the genealogy of the Christian Thomas Line I wish to call attention to one item which possibly indicates the time of entry of the ancestors of these lines into this country.

It is known by his name being signed to a petition from this county to the Legislature in 1742, that Christian was a resident at that date. It is therefore very probable that others of the German lines were here at that time. There is one fact recorded in Volume III of the Colonial Records of Pennsylvania which throws considerable light on this subject, and with other data indicates very nearly the time of entry.

This statement is as follows:

"At the Courtho. of Philadia, Aug. 29, 1720.

Present:

The Honble Patrick Gordon, Esqr., Lt. Governor.

With the Mayor of Philadelphia, and several of the city magistrates

A list was presented with the names of Seventy Seven Palatines, who with their families, making in all about Two hundred and sixty Persons, were imported here in the Ship Thistle of Glasgow, Colin Dunlap Mr., from Rotterdam, but last from Dover, as by Clearance from



that Port. The Master being examined, said he had no particular License for their Transportation; they were then called in, and having declared that their intentions were to settle and live peaceably in this Province, the several persons whose names follow, did repeat and sign the Declaration inserted in the Minute of the 21st of Sept., 1737, and likewise took and subscribed the Declaration of Fidelity and Abjuration."

[The term "Palatinus" was applied generally to Germans and not simply to those from the Palatinates.]

Then follows the list of signatures, among which appear the names of Christian Thomas, Michael Thomas and Michael Thomas [two of them]. As indicating that these Thomases were the same as, or connected with those known to have been residents of the county some twelve to eighteen years later, we notice the following names among those of persons arriving in this and other vessels coming near the same time, from the same part of Europe, and landing at Philadelphia. The last names only are given; the spelling of the same name varies more or less—for instance Stonfer is written Stawfer, Stauffer, Stonfer, and Stoupher. We give only one form except in a few instances:

Steiner,	Doll,	Leman,
Zinn, (Sinn?)	Kunn,	Hartman,
Kopplinger,	Sherer,	Hoffman,
Michael,	Renn,	Hendrick,
Castle,	Miller,	Kohler,
Crossman,	Nuss,	Stoufer, ✓
✓ Thomas,	Myer,	Brauer,
Durr, Derr,	Sholl,	Rice,
Zacharias,	Hoff,	Kuntz,
Ebert,	Lorentz,	Cramer,
Diebelbissia,	Kintz,	Houser,
Snively,	Zeigler,	Keiffer,
Bungartner,	Apple,	Reuner,
Gilbert,	Werner,	Klein,
• Zimmerman,	Ott,	Mantz,
Arz,	Fischer,	Cunkell,
Hower (Hauer?)	Roup,	Sheffer,
Doobs,	Albrecht,	Markey,
Baer,	Haller,	Keller,
Koib, Kulp, etc.		

While it is probably true that the resemblance between some of these names and those of the county are merely accidental, there being no relationship, there are too many in the list [which might be enlarged] to consider them all accidental. We are justified therefore, in assuming that some of those arriving during this immigration, came in par-

ties to this county from Philadelphia, with but little delay on the way. This belief seems to be strengthened by the fact communicated to me by Mr. Albert Lampe, that no Thomas marriages preceding 1754 are mentioned on the marriage record of the oldest Reformed church of Lancaster, Pa. [The first entrance of the Thomases of the German lines into this section was evidently between 1730 and 1742.]

That the Christian mentioned in the list of those brought over by the "Thistle" was probably the first resident ancestor of the Christian Thomas line, will be shown in the genealogy of that line. Whether either of the Michaels was the father of Gabriel, John, and Valentine, or of either of them, can only be surmised. One of them can be accounted for by the record, but the other cannot. According to the baptismal record of the Reformed Church of Frederick, a Michael Thomas and Barbara, his wife, presented two children for baptism—one named Jacob, born 1748, the other named Michael, born 1749. Michael, the father of these children, may have been a brother of Christian—in whose line the name Michael appears—but could not have been the father of Gabriel, John, or Valentine, as the youngest of the three was certainly born not later than 1733. The other Michael, of whom we learn nothing more, may have

as  
and  
around  
Woodsboro and Pa., ex-  
pects to leave for  
Indiana, in a few  
tland,  
been the father, but this is only a surmise.

It is somewhat strange that the name Ramsberg does not appear in any of the lists of passengers of the vessels referred to. This seems to indicate that there were other parties of German immigrants, whose names have not been recorded. In fact there is, at least, one reference in the Colonial Records of Pennsylvania to an earlier arrival, but no list is given.

#### The Christian Thomas Line.

This designation of a particular Thomas line is too well understood in Frederick county to need explanation here. However it is doubtful whether, as commonly used, it refers to the earlier ancestor of that name. The earliest representative in the county to which the line can be traced in the records





available, is Christian Thomas [1] who died in 1776 or 1777. That he was living in the county as early as 1753 appears by a deed from him and others—"of Frederick county"—to Conrad Keller, March 3, 1753. His name appears also among the signers of a petition to the State Legislature in 1742 showing that he was a resident at that date. There is also evidence indicating that he was the first of the line who came to the county. I find in Vol. III of the Colonial Records of Pennsylvania the statement already given under "Remarks on the German Lines." As there stated, the name of Christian Thomas appears in the list of passengers on the Thistle of Glasgow, which arrived in 1730.

It is evident that this Christian was twenty one years of age when he signed this roll in 1730. But it is probable he was not married earlier than 1735, most likely some four or five years later, for his oldest child does not appear to have been born before 1744 or 1745. As there is no evidence that there were two persons of this name in the county previous to the birth of his son Christian, we are justified in assuming that this was the Christian referred to in the records previous to that date.

Whether this genealogical stem is related to the line of the Three Brothers is a question I am unable to decide positively from the data obtained; however I am inclined to believe, as previously stated, that the two are branches of the same stem. That the Christian line pertains to the German branches, as distinguished from the English series, is evident. Moreover the strong similarity of the given names, especially in the older families, to those of the line of the Three Brothers, seems to justify this belief. Henry, Barbara [Anna Barbara in the baptismal record], Mary [Anna Maria], Catherine, Elizabeth, Susanna, Gabriel, Valentine, etc., are common in both; and even Christian is found in both. How far back it would be necessary to trace the two lines to find the meeting point, it is impossible to state without further light upon the subject, but it seems quite probable that two or three generations back would bring them together. The fact that representatives of the two branches appeared on the scene about the same time indicates that they came from the same section.

#### Christian Thomas (1.)

As no record of the date of birth or of the marriage of this Christian Thomas has been found, we are left to inference alone from what is given in the baptismal record of the Reformed Church of Frederick. It is stated that Anna Maria, a child of this Christian and his wife, Magdalena, was born August 11, 1751, and Anna Barbara, June 6, 1753. As it is possible that Christian and Henry were both older children than these two, it is safe to assume that Christian was married not later than 1746, probably four or five years earlier, and was born as early as 1709, judging from the quotation given above from the Colonial Records of Pennsylvania. The first name of his wife, as shown by the baptismal record, and also by deeds, was Magdalena, but her full name before marriage has not been ascertained. He died in 1777, his wife died previously. He mentions "Beaver Hole" (called elsewhere "Beaver Den") as the name of his land.

The names of his children as given in his will are as follows:

I Christian—Date of birth not on record.

II Henry—Date of birth not on record.

III Mary—Born August 11, 1751.

IV Barbara—Born June 6, 1753.

V. In addition to these the will mentions as grandchildren, Daniel Terrick, Jacob Terrick, John Terrick, Joseph Terrick, and Barbara Terrick, children of Anthony Terrick.

I CHRISTIAN THOMAS [of Christian 1] whom, for convenience I will designate Christian Thomas [2], was probably born in 1748 or 1749 and died in 1798. The first name of his wife was Susanna, but neither the date of her marriage nor her previous full name has been found. However, as the baptismal record gives as the date of birth—apparently of the oldest child—March 15, 1774, it is probable the marriage occurred in 1772 or 1773. She survived her husband and died in 1820. The names of their children are given as follows:

1 Michael—Born March 15, 1774.

2 Mary—Date of birth not recorded.

3 Catherine—Born November 11, 1777.

4 William—Born December 19, 1778.

5 Elizabeth—Born October 23, 1780.

6 Valentine—Date of birth not recorded.



- 7 Gabriel—Born April 29, 1784.  
 8 Sophia—Born October 10, 1787.  
 9 John—Date of birth not recorded.  
 10 Henry—Born February 5, 1790.  
 11—Susanna—Born February 6, 1792.

As the will of their mother [October 30, 1820] makes no mention of Mary, Gabriel, Sophia or Henry, nor of their children, it is probable the first three had died without issue subsequent to the date of their father's will [1798], as their names are included therein. It is known, however, that Henry lived a number of years after that date.

1 MICHAEL THOMAS, [of Christian 2], was married to Margaret Ogle, Nov. 6, 1802. He died in the latter part of 1847, or beginning of 1848; his wife, who survived him, died in 1854. Their children named in the records were as follows:

[a] Sybilla Rebecca—Born August 18, 1803.

[b] Maria Susan—Born January 20, 1806.

Christian—Born October 10, 1807.

Joseph—Born November 7, 1810.

[c] David Ogle—Born November 11, 1812.

[d] Margaret Catherine—Born January 17, 1815.

[e] Lewis Michael—Born December 14, 1819.

[a] SYBILLA REBECCA THOMAS [of Michael] married Valentine Adams, January 8, 1822. He died in 1859 or 1860; she died, May 26, 1847. He was married to his second wife—Sarah Reich—June 4, 1851, who survived him. His children by his first wife were the following:

Eleanora M.—Born Nov. 11, 1822, married to David Cooper, May 26, 1848.

Sarah A. R.—Born Nov. 19, 1824, married to John P. Shank, Aug. 26, 1846.

Abram—Born Feb. 21, 1827, married to Sarah A. Kemp, Dec. 14, 1853.

Vallietta S. T.—Born June 3, 1828, married first to James R. Weagley, Nov. 24, 1854—second to George W. Blessing.

David O. M.—Born June 2, 1831, died in infancy.

Caroline S.—Born July 18, 1833, died in infancy.

Jeannett M.—Born Oct. 11, 1835, married to Henry Nelson, Oct. 4.

Fannie E. O.—Born March 29, 1838.

William H. H.—Born March 8, 1840, remained single.

Robert M.—Jany. 19, 1844, died in infancy.

[b] MARIA SUSAN THOMAS [of Michael] married Daniel Scholl, May 10, 1832. She died August 31, 1873; he died July 6, 1873. They left as their only child and heir Margaret E. Scholl, married to James M. Hood, October 21, 1873.

[c] DAVID OGLE THOMAS [of Michael] married Elizabeth Stouffer, April 4, 1838. He died in 1876; his wife survived him. Their children were as follows:

Lewis O.—Who remained single.

Margaret O.—Married to John J. Myer.

Laura W.—Married to Cecelius Warfield.

Jeannette J. S.—Married to Seaberry Smith.

Alfred V.—Married to Emma W. Clarke.

[d] MARGARET O. THOMAS [of Michael] married O. B. Artz, June 23, 1845. She died March 27, 1887; date of his death not ascertained. Their only child was Victorine, who remained single.

[e] LEWIS M. THOMAS [of Michael] married Susan Snively 1843. He died in 1881; his wife died March 23, 1882. Their children were as follows:

Claytonia F.—Married to S. S. Maynard, January 2, 1872.

Fannie—Married to Frank Noonan, November 1869.

Margaret Catherine—Married to Geo. O. Hultt, April 4, 1874.

Nannie—

Caroline S—

Alice—

3 CATHERINE THOMAS [of Christian 2] married George F. Myers, August 17, 1862. Nothing further has been found in regard to these parties except what is contained in the will of Susanna Thomas, widow of Christian [2] and mother of Catherine; and in the baptismal record. By this will, which was filed for record October 30, 1820, we learn the name of three children as follows:

Valentine—Born September 1, 1804.

Maria—Born August 18, 1808.

Catherine—Date of birth not given.

There was a Maria Myers married to Samuel Cronise, March 2, 1825, possibly



his tone.

4 WILLIAM THOMAS [of Christian 2] married Catherine Houser, April 15, 1806. He died in 1816 or 1817. His wife survived him and died probably in 1864 or 1865. The following are the names of their children:

William R.—Who remained single.

Catherine A.—Married to Karl J. Rypma, September 25, 1837.

Caroline E.—Married to Daniel Bren-  
gle, December 3, 1833.

5 ELIZABETH THOMAS [of Chris-  
tian 2] remained single and died in 1826  
or 1827.

6 VALENTINE THOMAS [of Chris-  
tian 2] remained single but the date of  
his death has not been ascertained.

7 HENRY THOMAS [of Christian 2]  
married Catherine Baltzell, May 25,  
1816. He died November 2, 1859, date  
of his wife's death not known. They  
had but one child, name not given.

9 JOHN THOMAS [of Christian 2]  
married Elizabeth Spurrier. No addi-  
tional facts obtained.

11 SUSANNA THOMAS [of Chris-  
tian 2] married John Ogle, October 28,  
1819. I have obtained no further infor-  
mation in regard to these parties, nor in  
reference to the other children of Chris-  
tian Thomas [2]

V——?——? [of Christian 1] The  
name of this daughter of Christian  
Thomas [1] is not revealed by his will  
nor by the official or church records,  
possibly it was Mary or Barbara, though  
it may have been and more likely was  
one not mentioned. All that is found,  
is that she was married to Anthony  
Terrick, and that there were five chil-  
dren names as follows:

Daniel,	Jacob,	John,
Joseph,	Barbara.	

Nothing has been learned in regard  
to Henry, Mary, and Barbara, the other  
children of Christian [1]

With this, except one — two detach-  
ed families, which I have been unable  
to connect with the others, we close the  
lists of the German lines. As it is pos-  
sible data may be obtained to connect  
the detached families, brief notices of  
two are presented.

#### Detached Families of the German Series.

CHRISTOPHER THOMAS. I find  
this name only in the baptismal record  
of the Reformed Church of Frederick.  
From this it appears that the first name  
of his wife was Susanna, and that the  
names of the children baptized were as  
follows:

Catherine—Born April 29, 1759.

Margaret—Born October 31, 1760.

Anna Barbara—Born December 23,  
1764.

Anna Maria—Born September 17, 1766.

Christopher—Born January 6, 1774

Magdalena—Born November 7, 1775.

The names are sufficient evidence that  
this family belongs to the German se-  
ries.

The other is the Michael Thomas  
already mentioned as possibly a brother  
to Christian, who came to this country  
with the latter.

#### The George Ramsberg Line.

As Margaret, the daughter of this  
George Ramsberg [1] was the wife of  
Henry Thomas [of John 1] and mother  
of all his children, all the descendants  
of the said George Ramsberg [1] are rel-  
atives of the descendants of said Henry  
Thomas and wife. As John Thomas  
[of Gab. 1, as already shown, married  
Elizabeth, daughter of this George  
Ramsberg, their descendants will  
also be relatives of the descendants of  
Henry and Margaret whether Gabriel  
[1] was a brother of John 1,  
or not. As Gabriel [of Gab. 1] mar-  
ried Mary, another daughter, their de-  
scendants will also be relatives of the  
descendants of Henry and Margaret. It  
is for these reasons that the list of the  
descendants of George Ramsberg [1] are  
introduced here.

This George Ramsberg, as appears  
from the marriage record of the Re-  
formed church of Frederick, was mar-  
ried to Maria Elizabeth Frunser, Dec.  
20, 1756. It is probable therefore, as  
the records show that his death occurred  
in 1819 or 1820, that he was born be-  
tween 1730 and 1735. He must there-  
fore have been some 85 or 90 years old  
when he died. He married a second time,  
March 27, 1789, to Catherine Sou'ser.  
The death of his first wife, who was the  
mother of all his children occurred be-  
tween 1777 and 1789. The names of his  
children are given as follows:

I. Anna Maria—Born December  
24, 1758.



II. John—Born December 15, 1780.  
III. Catherine—Born December 21, 1762.

IV. Elizabeth—Date of birth not obtained.

V. Anna Margaret—Born May 22, 1767.

VI. Sebastian—Date of birth not obtained.

VII. George Peter—Born March 16, 1770.

VIII. Charlotte—Born June 22, 1772.

IX. Stephen—Born November 9, 1774

X. Barbara—Born May 17, 1777.

XI. Susanna—Born July 28, 1779

His second wife appears to have survived him but the date of her death is unknown.

I. ANNA MARIA RAMSBERG [of George 1] or simply Mary as she is termed in the official marriage record, was married to Gabriel Thomas [of Gab. 1] March 11, 1779. As their descendants are mentioned, so far as known, in the Gabriel Thomas line they will not be given here.

11 JOHN RAMSBERG [of George 1]. As appears from the official record there was a John Ramsberg married to Catherine Thomas, January 13, 1789. As these parties are not mentioned by Rev. Wm. L. Ramsberg in his account of the other branch of the Ramsberg family published in the Valley Register of Middletown, April 5, 1901. I think it safe to assume that this John was the son of George [1], although we lack the positive proof. I think it quite probable that the Catherine Thomas to whom he was married was the daughter of Gabriel [1]. There was a John Ramsberg, Sr.—not included in Rev. Ramsberg's list—whose will was filed for record November 24, 1845. This John appears to have been the one above-mentioned, although this would assume he was 84 years old when he died. His will makes no mention of his wife, from which fact it is presumed her death occurred previous to the date thereof [October 3, 1840]. It is probable he died in 1845. The children mentioned are as follows:  
1 Henry.      2 John.      3 Elizabeth.  
4 Sarah.      5 Mary.

1 HENRY RAMSBERG [of John]. It appears from his will that his wife's name was Elizabeth, and I am informed she was a Coblentz, but I find no such marriage recorded,

but do find that a Henry Ramsberg married an Elizabeth Bovey, May 5, 1819, and that another Henry married Eliza Coblentz December 19, 1820. He died in 1866 and his wife in 1880 or 1881. The following children are mentioned:

William P.—Married to Eliza Huffer, March 18, 1844.

Adeline V.—Married to John Ramsberg, March 22, 1843.

Ninian H.—Moved away.

Lydia A.—Married to Daniel Brandenburgh, February 10, 1851.

Louisa or Georgiana—Married to William Smith.

Catherine A.—Married to Francis T. Hopwood.

Charles T.—Married to Claggett.

2 JOHN RAMSBERG [of John] was married to Catherine Coblentz May 28, 1827 and died in 1865. As his wife is not mentioned in his will it is presumed she had died previous to the date thereof [1865.] The children mentioned are as follows:

Joshua P.—Married to Louisa A. C. Coblentz, February 7, 1861.

Henry C.—Married to Mahala M. Kefauver, February 19, 1865.

Mahlon R.—Married to Margaret A. C. Nikirk, January 12, 1869.

John Harmon—Married to Mary E. Lighter, February 9, 1857.

George I.—Married to Susan E. Smith, January 15, 1863.

Stephen C.—

Lewis H.—

Ann R. E.—Married to — Brachley.

3 Elizabeth Ramsberg [of John] appears to have remained single and died in 1870.

4 Sarah Ramsberg [of John] married John Coblentz [of Phil.], April 11, 1829.

6 Mary Ramsberg [of John] married — Abalt.

III CATHERINE RAMSBERG [of Geo. 1] married Henry Hershberger, May 7, 1787. I have failed to obtain any further information in regard to these parties.

IV. ELIZABETH RAMSBERG [of Geo. 1] married John Thomas [of Gab. 1.] April 16, 1786. A list of their descendants has already been given in the line of Gabriel Thomas [1].

V ANN MARGARET RAMSBERG





[of Geo. 1] married Henry Thomas [of John 1] November 22, 1790. The particulars regarding them and their descendants have been given in the line of John Thomas [1].

**VI. SEBASTIAN RAMSBERG** [of Geo. 1] married Elizabeth Stoner, November 16, 1800. He died in 1840 or 1841, the date of the death of his wife has not been ascertained, though it is known that she lived some time after the death of her husband. Mrs. Crum, of Jefferson, has furnished the following names of children:

- 1 Mary. 2 Sophia. 3 Daniel.
- 4 William. 5 John.

**1 MARY RAMSBURG** [of Sebas. 1] married John Hershew, Nov. 26, 1822.

**2 SOPHIA RAMSBERG** [of Sebas. 1] married Arnold S. Stonebraker, November 1, 1832.

**3 DANIEL RAMSBERG** [of Sebas. 1] Have nothing further in regard to him.

William and John Ramsburg [of Sebas. 1] moved out of the county.

**VII GEORGE RAMSBERG** [of Geo. 1]. This George Ramsberg, whom we shall designate as George [2], married Catherine Culler, November 24, 1797. His name in his father's will is simply George, but is George Peter in the baptismal record. I have obtained no information as to the date of death of himself or wife. Mrs. Susan Crum, of Jefferson, a descendant, has furnished the following names of children:

1 Sebastian—Date of birth not on record.

2 Elizabeth—Born August 23, 1800.

3 Jacob—Date of birth not on record.

4 Susanna—Date of birth not on record.

5—Catherine—Date of birth not on record.

6 Anna—Born February 7, 1819.

**1 SEBASTIAN RAMSBERG** [of Geo. 2] married Eve Feaster, June 14, 1822; died about 1866. His wife who survived him, died in 1876. The following were their children:

Mary O.—Remained single.

Daniel S.—Married 1st, to Anna Hoffman, 2nd, to Catherine Souder.

Anna E.—Remained single.

Susan S.—Married to George W. Crum, February 15, 1851.

Alverda G.—Remained single.

George P.—Married to Mary G.

Kemp, February 13, 1849.

John Henry—Married to Josephine Greenleaf.

**2 ELIZABETH RAMSBERG** [of Geo. 2] married John Feaster, May 11, 1819. He died in 1863. Although the record of administration makes no mention of widow or child, Mrs. Susan Crum gives the following names of children:

Susan R.—Married to Daniel H. Thomas, November 23, 1841.

Catherine—Married to Henry O. Souler, April 30, 1853.

Eve Ann—Remained single.

George—Died young.

**3 JACOB RAMSBERG** [of Geo. 2] married Elizabeth Willyard, October 22, 1827. He died in 1865; as his wife is not mentioned in his will it is presumed she had died previously. The following are the children mentioned in the will:

Washington Z.—Married to Mary Hargett.

George P.—Married to Ann Eliza Snoots, February 25, 1860.

Lucinda V.—Married to Tilghman P. Myers, August 12, 1854.

Elizabeth R.—Married to Daniel P. Thomas, December 8, 1857.

Philip A. W.—Married to Sarah Hoffman.

Anna A.—Married to Lewis E. Smith, April 21, 1863.

Calvin F.—Married to Emma V. Hargett, March 12, 1863.

Gideon J.—Married to, 1st, Alice V. Shellman, March 20, 1869; 2nd, Anna Rhoderick.

Albert J.—Married to Mary Alice Beall, March 12, 1874.

**4 SUSANNA RAMSBERG** [of Geo. 2] married William Lakin, Sept. 10, 1827. He died in 1850; his wife survived him, but the date of her death has not been obtained. The following are the names of their children:

William H.—Married to Ellen O. Hemp, Oct. 11, 1859.

Lucretia O.—Married to Richard P. T. Dutrow, Nov. 10, 1849.

Francis T.—Married to Mary F. Garey, February 13, 1872.

John—Married to Ellen Cochran.

Oephas—Married to Flora Souder.

Henry—Remained single.

Charlotte B.—Married to Thomas Thrasher.

**5 CATHERINE RAMSBERG** [of Geo.



2] married Emanuel Thomas, May 8, 1830. [Her name in the marriage record is Ann Catherine].

6 ANNA RAMSBERG [of Geo. 2] married Alexander H. Geisbert, Dec. 31, 1840. He died in 1862; his wife survived him. Their two children were as follows:

Hester Ann—Who remained single.  
Maranda Catherine — Married to Charles Allen Thomas, May 21, 1862.

VIII CHARLOTTE RAMSBERG [of George 1] married Valentine Buckey, January 29, 1793. He died in 1826 and she died in 1853, then 81 years old. They left no children. The writer may be permitted to say that he had the pleasure of visiting and stopping for a short season with this great aunt some five or six years previous to her death; a visit which he still remembers with pleasure.

IX STEPHEN RAMSBERG [of George 1] moved to Montgomery County, Md.

X BARBARA RAMSBERG [of George 1] was married to Stephen Stoner, October 11, 1795. I have obtained no other particulars.

XI SUSANNA RAMSBERG [of George 1] was married to Christian Stoner, May 3, 1800. He died in 1842; she died in 1857, 80 years of age. They left no children.

With this we end the list of a family remarkable for the longevity of the earlier members.

#### Acknowledgements.

I take pleasure in acknowledging the uniform courtesies extended to me by the officials of the Orphan's Court and the Circuit Clerk's office. I wish also to thank the following persons for information furnished: Mr. and Mrs. J. Franklin Thomas, Mrs. Catherine Castle, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Myers, Mrs. Margaret Hood, Mrs. Susan Crum, Rev. William L. Ramsberg, Mrs. Brown, (of Myersville); Mrs. and Mrs. Stephen A. Thomas, Mrs. Susan Rice, Miss Emma Thomas, Dr. Eschbach and others. I wish also to thank the News corps for the plan and accuracy of the printing.

The English lines may be taken up later in the season if information regarding some missing links can be ob-

tained when acknowledgements for assistance will be made.

## THE THOMAS GENEALOGY.

### Additional Facts Recently Discovered by Prof. Thomas.

[Written by Prof. Cyrus Thomas.]

Since the articles on the Thomas genealogy published in THE NEWS, I have had an opportunity of examining the gravestones in the old cemetery on or immediately adjoining, the land of John Thomas [1], of which mention has already been made. Among the interesting items obtained, are the following:

That Valentine Thomas [the Valentine [1] of the Valentine line] was born September 20 1724, and died August 27, 1796. His name, as given on the stone, is "Valentine Tamas," and it is also stated that he was born at a certain place [name not fully made out] in Germany ["Deutschland"].

The grave of Gabriel Thomas [1] was also found: By the record on the headstone it appears that he was born in Germany, at the same place as Valentine. June 12, 1721, and died January 18, 1794.

To my regret I was unable to find anything by which to identify the grave of John Thomas [1] though the graves of two of his children—Catherine and Henry—are well marked as follows:

Catherine Wedickinn, born November 14, 1756, died September 9, 1824.

Philip H. Thomas, born October 18, 1765, died January 17, 1828.

It seems that here, as also in one of the records made by his son George, Philip was looked upon as his chief name,—though he, in all his deeds, etc., wrote his name simply "Henry Thomas"—and George signed himself always as "George [of Hy.]" Next the grave of Henry [or Philip H. as given on the stone] is the grave of his wife Margaret—with dates as given in the article relating to the genealogy of John Thomas [1.]

I also found in the cemetery the grave of George Ramsberg [1.]—It appears from the head stone that he was born February 19, 1736, and died November 24, 1829.



Other records found here were as follows:

"John Thomas, born June 6, 1757, died April 5, 1796." This was evidently John the son of Gabriel [1.]

"John Thomas of Gab. born August 6, 1782, died December 5, 1841." This was John the son of Gabriel [2] son of Gabriel [1.]

"Elizabeth Thomas, born December [2] 1764, died July 30, 1825." This was the wife of John Thomas [of Gab. 1] Their graves are side by side.

"Anna Maria Thomas, wife of Gab., born November 15, 1758, died January 23, 1821." This was the wife of Gabriel [2,] son of Gabriel [1.]

"Barbara Hoffman, born March 24, 1749, died September 19, 1821." This was the daughter of Gabriel [1.] The grave by the side of this one is that of her husband.

"Franz Hoffman—Born August 10, 1750, died May 25, 1819."

The head-stone of the grave of Gabriel Thomas [2] Son of Gabriel [1] has the following record:

"Gabriel Thomas born March 13 [or 18] 1753, died July 24, 1808."

The record on another stone is as follows:

"Margaret, wife of Gabriel of V. born March 14, 1758, died March 11, 1837." This was the wife of Gabriel of Valentine [1].

On another stone was found this inscription:

"Maria Elizabeth Ramsberg, died December 27, 1787, aged 48 yrs. 11 mos." I am unable to locate this individual who was born in January 1739, in any of the genealogical lines. If a Thomas she was probably a sister of, or of one of, the supposed three brothers. If unmarried then probably a sister of George Ramsberg [1].

The dates of birth on the grave-stones, as will be noticed, do not agree exactly with the baptismal record, but the identification as given here is, I am satisfied, correct.

The important facts in this additional data, are that Valentine [1] and Gabriel [1] came over from Germany, and were born in the same place. Although I did not make out the entire name of the locality, there is no question that the birth-place of Valentine was the same as that of Gabriel. So far as made out the inscription—which is precisely the same on both grave-stones—appears to be as follows: "Schifferstadt Klein, Deutchland, Pa. . . ." Schifferstadt is situated in what is called Rhenish Bavaria, the Old Palatinate, South West Germany. Six miles N. N. W. of Speyer.

According to Rev. William L. Ramsberg the Bruners came from the same place.

## RAMSBERG GENEALOGY.

### CHILDREN OF GEORGE RAMSBERG I.

Since the foregoing was compiled, the following list of the children of the first George Ramsberg has been furnished to me by Mr. George B. Ramsberg of Montgomery County, Md., who has the old family Bible in his possession.

Anna Maria, Nov. 15, 1758.

John, Dec. 15, 1760.

Oatharine, Dec. 21, 1763.

Elizabeth, Dec. 21, 1764.

Anna Margaret, Feb. 16, 1767.

George Peter, March 16, 1770.

Charlotte, June 22 1772.

Stephen, Nov. —, 1774.

Barbara, May —, 1777.

Sebastian, Aug. 18 1779.

Susanna, March 8, 1782.

George Ramsberg, the father, was married December, 1756.

Sebastian Ramsberg, son of George (1st,) married Elizabeth Steiner, Nov.

16, 1800. Their children and dates of birth were as follows:

Elias, Sept. 13, 1801.

William, Aug. 26, 1803.

Mary, Oct. 31, 1805.

Oatharine, Jan. 8 1808.

Sophia, Oct. 29, 1810.

Elizabeth, March 15, 1813.

Susanna, March 2, 1816.

Daniel Thomas, May 12, 1819.

John Henry, Nov. 19, 1821.

Sebastian, son of George (1st,) died March 17, 1841, and his wife Sept. 3, 1866.

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